GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:220
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2006
NATIONAL WATER POLICY
Veerendra Kumar Shri M.P.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Water Policy has failed to regulate surface and ground water resources in the country;

(b) if so, whether certain drawbacks in the Policy have been identified;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to revise the National Water Policy to make it realistic and more acceptable for implementation by the States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.220 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 7.8.2006 REGARDING NATIONAL WATER POLICY.

(a) to (e) The National Water Policy, 2002 (NWP) was adopted by the National Water Resources Council on 1st April, 2002. The NWP addresses the various issues related to development and management of both surface and ground water resources. Observations/views of a number of people have been received in respect of NWP from time to time and they have been duly examined by the Ministry of Water Resources. The examination of these views did not call for immediate need for revamping the National Water Policy. However, the NWP states that it may be revised periodically as and when need arises.

The NWP clearly states that its success will depend entirely on evolving and maintaining a national consensus and commitment to its underlying principles and objectives. For achieving the desired objectives, the NWP stipulates formulation of State Water Policy backed with an operational action plan in a time bound manner.